

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD

Selectmen's Meeting

March 3, 2008

The Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Members present: Raymond C. Peeples, Jr., Chairman
M. Patricia Jewett, Vice Chairman
Alfred C. Raccio
George A. Lambert
Andrew M. Santom

Also present: Howard L. Dilworth, Jr., Administrative Assistant
Dave Johnson, Manchester Union Leader

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 7:26 p.m. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Dave Hansberry asked if the Board will be discussing Recreation status this evening because it was not on the agenda. Mr. Raccio said he does not wish to bring it up and it will be discussed at a date certain. It will be discussed next week.

Another resident asked about his appointment to the Recreation Commission. He was told that appointments are made after the Elections. Mr. Peeples said that the Board needs applications to be submitted for the Board's review.

EXPENDITURES OVER \$3,000

The Board discussed the motion made on January 28, 2008, that expenditures over \$3,000 have to be approved by the Board. Mr. Raccio wants to keep the freeze in place. Mr. Seymour added that the Town has a legal obligation to pay the bills and contractual obligations to pay especially the School payment which has nothing to do with the Town expenditures.

Mr. Lambert **MOTIONED** to approve the amounts over \$3,000 on the list (see below) and remove this motion from the Board and this Town. Mrs. Jewett seconded. Mr. Raccio voted no. Motion carried 4-1-0. List of payments: Stantec \$5,000 (Change Order No. 5 Brickyard; LGC \$25,518.95 (health and dental insurance payment); Stantec \$10,034.35 (Eng work re: Albuquerque Ave Bike Ped Path); JG Grading \$3,336.00 (snow plowing); James Hysette \$9,306.00 (snow plowing); Eagle & Sons \$12,198.00 (snow plowing);

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MRI \$8,000.00 (2nd and 3rd installment on contract); Hodes, Buckley, et al, \$3,000 (monthly retainer); Litchfield School district, \$397,155.71 (monthly assessment due schools); NH Retirement System \$14,814.25 (monthly payment to retirement system).

CODE ENFORCEMENT POSITION

The Board is in receipt of a letter from Town Counsel and Mr. Roland Bergeron, Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Raccio said according to Town Counsel the position is a part-time position. Talk went on as to the hours worked by Mr. Bergeron; he works four days, thirty-eight hours a week.

Mr. Raccio **MOTIONED** that we advertise for a part-time position with the potential to grow the position as responsibilities are added. Mr. Santom seconded. Mr. Raccio amended the motion to say 32 hours part-time Code Enforcement position. Mr. Santom seconded the amendment. **Vote:** 4-0-1.

Mr. Raccio said he will email the draft advertisement summary to the attorneys and the Board to review. Then provide the information to Mr. Bergeron for his review and possibly meet with him.

FIRE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH CONTRACT

Fire Chief Thomas Schofield came before the Board to discuss the Hudson Dispatch Contract and obtain the Selectmen's signatures. The contract is a per call basis for 2008, 2009 and 2010. January 2008 it will be \$8.00 a call; January 2009 it will be \$9.00 and 2010 it will be \$12.00.

There is \$7,100 put into the 2008 budget to cover the contract which is already in effect.

Mr. Peebles **MOTIONED** to approve the contract between the Town of Hudson and the Town of Litchfield Fire Department. It was seconded. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Hydrant - Chief Schofield talked about the hydrants not being plowed out by Pennichuck.

Mr. Santom **MOTIONED** to send a letter to Pennichuck from the attorneys. Mrs. Jewett seconded. Chief Schofield explained that the tanker is out of town and so he is concerned although he has made arrangements with another town for coverage but it will take them fifteen minutes to get here. He further stated that Pennichuck needs to verify that the hydrants are working 100% because they may be frozen at this point; they are under the

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snow. Chief Schofield said the hydrants are not self draining. Talk ensued. Motion carried 5-0-0.

SOLID WASTE UPDATE

Mr. Lambert said the Solid Waste Committee will be meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Raccio asked when the Selectmen will have a recommendation from the Committee. Mr. John Brunelle said it will be either in July or August. Mr. Raccio is concerned that the solutions the Committee comes up with may not be viable and then there will not be ample time to fund for the budget season.

MEETING MINUTES

Mrs. Jewett **MOTIONED** to approve the December 3, 2007 and December 28, 2007 minutes. Mr. Raccio seconded. Motion carried 5-0-0.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

COMMUNITY BULLETINS

Basketball - Mrs. Jewett mentioned the Girls' Basketball Team is playing tonight in Plymouth in the semi-finals.

School - Mrs. Jewett said there will be School Board meeting on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Candidates' Night - Mrs. Jewett announced Candidates' Night is Friday at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Talk went on as to exceeding the occupancy limit in the Meeting Room.

Mr. Raccio **MOTIONED** that the Fire Department provide coverage for Candidates' Night for medical reasons and exceeding of occupancy. Mr. Santom seconded. Mrs. Jewett voted no. Motion carried 4-1-0. Candidates' Night will be aired by the Cable Committee all weekend.

Elections - Election is March 11, 2008, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Campbell High.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Donations - Mrs. Jewett read a thank you letter to those present.

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DISTRICT REPORTS

Mr. Raccio said that he is getting a lot of inquiries as to spraying for mosquitoes. Again, he reiterated to the public that there will be no spraying. The only time there would be spraying is by decree of the State during an emergency.

He suggested a poster be put up stating: 1. Personal protection is number one protection. 2. Testing and understanding of the environment and 3. Points of larvaeciding. Mr. Peeples suggested handing out flyers to residents at parks, etc. with samples to use for protection. Mr. Raccio said he will be looking into federal and state funding, sponsoring such programs as suggested by Mr. Peeples. Further discussions ensued.

The next Mosquito District Control meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2008.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Brick Yard - Mr. Peeples said that the wing wall is in place and the repair is completed. Mr. Raccio questioned if there was authorization from the Town attorney to proceed and is the contractor in compliance with the BOS demands.

He was told there is a letter from the contractor and he has agreed to a 2 year warrantee and to pay for the added engineering fees. Mr. Peeples said that it did not happen the way the Board had voted. Mr. Peeples said he was not at that meeting and that he did not have the minutes in front of him when this was discussed. Mr. Peeples feels the road is done and it is a better product.

Mr. Raccio mentioned an action that was supposed to be done by the Administrative Assistant to check with Town Counsel to see if the contractor had met the contractual obligations. This was noted in the minutes. Mr. Raccio said this was never done. Talk continued.

Mr. Lambert **MOTIONED** to reopen Brickyard to fire trucks, dogs, etc. they can use the dirt road until we put asphalt down. Mr. Santom seconded. Mr. Raccio voted no. Motion carried 4-0-1.

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There being no further business, Mr. Raccio **MOTIONED** to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lambert voted no. Chief Schofield interrupted to say a resident just called in to say that the road (Brickyard) is not secured; there are no guard rails, etc. Motion carried 4-1-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Raymond C. Peeples, Jr.
Chairman

M. Patricia Jewett
Vice Chairman

Alfred C. Raccio

George A. Lambert

Andrew M. Santom

Lorraine Dogopoulos
Selectmen's Secretary